

# NASA Life Sciences Portal: Supporting Scientific Transparency and Reproducibility

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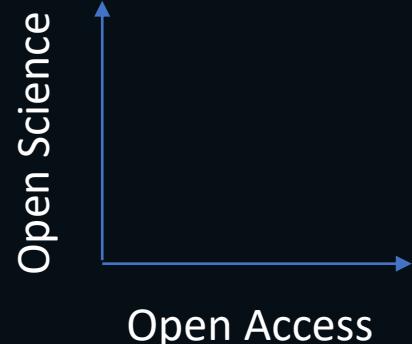
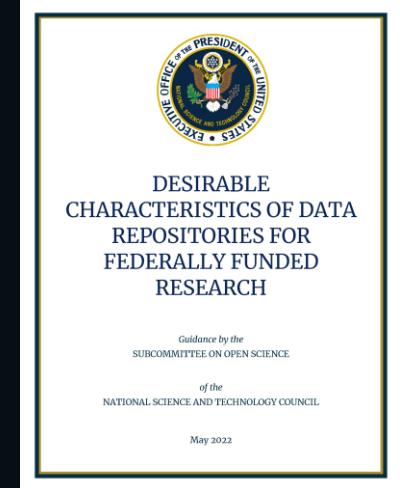
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# NASA and Open Science

- Science cannot be termed “open” unless its conduct is transparent
  - Metadata transparency means conveying what was done clearly and uniformly
    - Unambiguous and richly annotated attributes, values
    - Community-developed and –maintained (open-source) terminology models
  - Data transparency means using open standards for data whenever possible
- Transparency enables scientific reproducibility
  - Data cannot be reproduced if the context in which it is generated is not well understood
- Open Science ≠ Open Access
  - Open Science can be conducted and supported when:
    - Access to data and/or metadata is controlled
    - Subjects/samples are not identified/identifiable
    - Protocols, personnel, assay instruments, etc. are not (fully) revealed



# Open Science and FAIR Systems

- Critical features of FAIR systems
  - Metadata standardization and harmonization
  - Linked data
- Foundational components for Open Science,
  - Enhance transparency of investigations
  - Facilitate scientific reproducibility.
- NASA biomedical repositories could improve their FAIR scores through:
  - The increased use of community-based standards for metadata
  - Ensuring more uniformity of metadata values within and across biomedical data systems
  - Capturing more correspondences between metadata (linked data)
    - “This specimen in this experiment is a sample of that organism in that experiment”
    - “This instrument used in this experiment is the same as that instrument used in that experiment”
    - Etc.



# NLSP Plan for Increasing FAIR/Open Science Compliance

Low FAIR Compliance

Lack of Standard Metadata Metamodel

Lack of Standard Metadata Model

Lack of Standard Metadata Format

Lack of Data Identifiers

Lack of Data Licenses

Implement **ISA-tab** Metadata Metamodel

Develop and Deploy Open-source Metadata Model (**Ontologies**)

Implement the **ISA-tab** format standard

Implement DOI for Data Objects

Implement Licenses for Data Objects

Improved FAIR Compliance

# Increasing FAIR Compliance: Rich Metadata

- Use of Reference Vocabularies obviate need for retrospective metadata harmonization
  - SMEs develop and maintain the vocabularies
  - Re-use existing where appropriate
  - Both data producers and data consumers have access to browse, search
- Use of “Object-oriented” Vocabularies supports data linking
  - XML/RDF/OWL ontologies can be used as highly-annotated and well-organized vocabularies
  - Ontologies have classes, instances, relations, and relationships (relations between instances)



# Biomedical Investigation Ontologies

- OBO Foundry (~ 200 ontologies)
  - OBI Ontology for Biomedical Investigations
  - GO Gene Ontology
  - ENVO Environment Ontology
  - RBO Radiation Biology Ontology
- W3C
  - SOSA/SSN (Semantic Sensor Network)
  - TO Time Ontology
- NIH / NCBO (National Center for Biomedical Ontology) (1136 Ontologies, and counting)
  - NCBO Taxon: Ontological transformation of NCBI Taxonomy

# Clinical Ontologies

- SNOMED CT OWL
- ICD 9, 10 OWL
  - and other WHO ontologies
  - See [Bioportal.bioontology.org](http://Bioportal.bioontology.org) for more
- RxNORM
- LOINC
- ENVO
  - To characterize environments/exposures



# Use of Ontologies for “Rich” Metadata

NASA Life Sciences Portal: Record Viewer

Explore | Search | Data Submittal | Data Request | Resources

Contents

- Experiment
- Description
- Characteristics
- Publications
- Dataset
- Protocol Approach
- Space Agencies
- Research Areas
- Experiment Type
- Keywords
- Hardware
- Species
- Payloads
- Missions
- Nasa Center

VERSION: 19 (Latest)

Type: EXPERIMENT  
Source: LSDAPUBLIC

### Influence of Spaceflight on Bone Cell Cultures

Record Metadata

Show empty fields

Experiment

Experiment ID: 9304021\_1\_2

Data Preservation Status:

Work in progress. Contact LSDA to learn when data is projected to be available.

Experiment Title: Influence of Spaceflight on Bone Cell Cultures

Proposal Date: 9/1/1993

Managing NASA Center: Ames Research Center

Agency: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

Experiment Type:

Shuttle Life Sciences Research (Middeck)

Discipline:

Principal Investigator: Landis, William

Task Solicitation

Investigator(s):

Program: Shuttle

Hardware (1)

SHOWING RECORD 1

Hardware Name

Space Tissue Loss-A (STL-A) Module or Cell Culture Modular

Species (1)

Keywords (6)

Showing Records 1 - 6

Keyword

- Bone and bones
- Osteocalcin
- Tendons
- Gene expression
- Collagen
- Osteoclasts

PRotein Ontology (PRO)

Keywords:  Search terms

Class: osteocalcin

Term IRI: [http://purl.obolibrary.org/obo/PR\\_000030444](http://purl.obolibrary.org/obo/PR_000030444)

Definition: A protein that is a translation product of the human BGLAP gene or a 1:1 ortholog thereof. [database\_cross\_reference: PRO:DNx]

Annotations

- has\_exact\_synonym:BGLAP; BGP; gamma-carboxyglutamic acid-containing protein; bone Gla protein
- has\_obo\_namespace:protein
- <http://www.geneontology.org/formats/obinOwl#id:PR:000030444>
- <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#comment:Category=gene.>

Term Information

Accession: GO:0010467

Name: gene expression

Ontology: biological\_process

Synonyms: None

Alternate IDs: None

Definition: The process in which a gene's sequence is converted into a mature gene product (protein or RNA). This includes the production of an RNA transcript and its processing, translation and maturation for protein-coding genes. Source: PMID:25934543, GOC:txnOH-2018, PMID:31580950

Comment: None

History: See term [history for GO:0010467](#) at QuickGO

Subset: goslim\_flybase\_ribbon

Related:

- [Link](#) to all **genes and gene products** annotated to gene expression.
- [Link](#) to all direct and indirect **annotations** to gene expression.
- [Link](#) to all direct and indirect **annotations download** (limited to first 10,000) for gene expression.

# From Ontologies to Linked Data (Knowledge Graphs)



Graph constraints

Graph structures (nodes, vertices)

Hierarchical containment, namespaces,

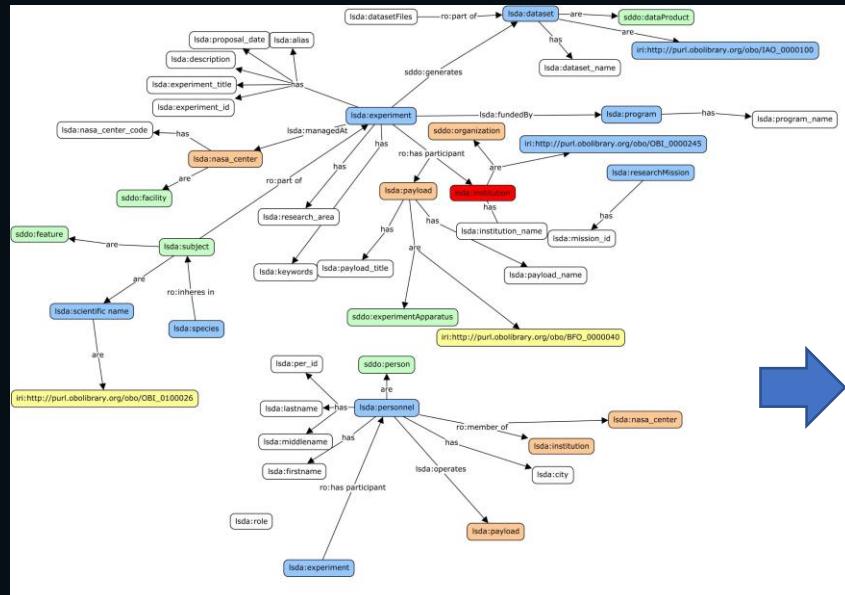


- RDF/OWL natively support logical property assertions for classes that connect *instances* through meaningful *links* to form graphs of knowledge

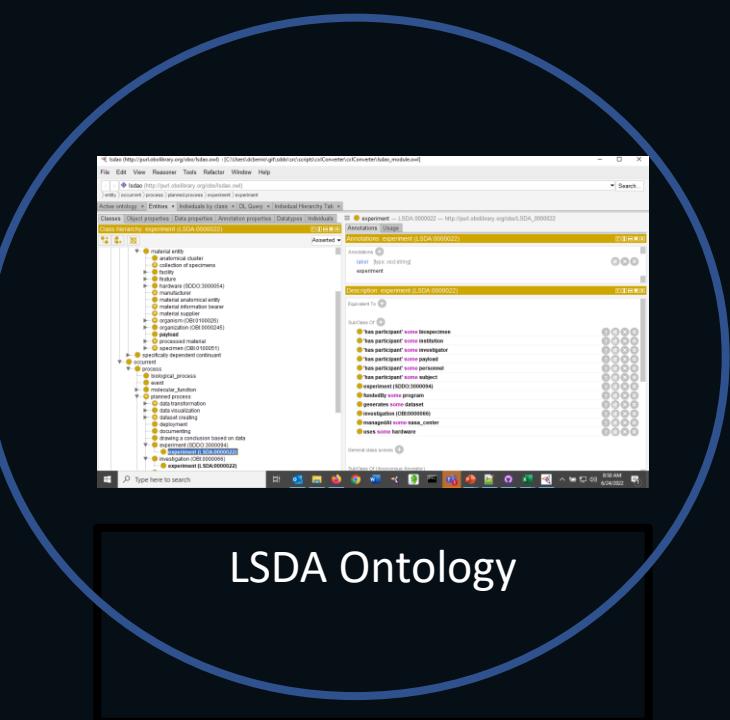


# Life Sciences Data Archive Ontology

- An *application ontology*
- Contains
  - Classes
  - Properties/relationships
  - Inferred from the legacy LSDA
  - Contextualized within the Science Data Discovery Ontology
- Currently being enhanced with critical annotations and relationships not captured by the SDDO



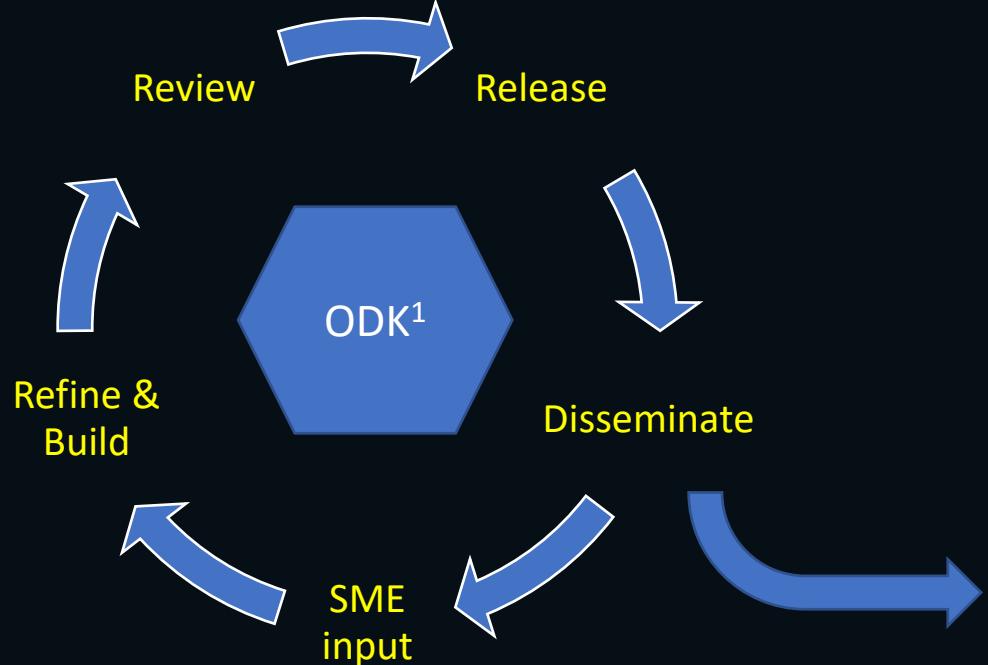
LSDA Ontology



LSDA Ontology

Hosted at: <https://github.com/nasa/LSDAO>

# LSDA Ontology Development



<sup>1</sup>Ontology Development Kit

<https://github.com/INCATools/ontology-development-kit>

<sup>2</sup><https://ontobee.org/>

<sup>3</sup><https://bioportal.bioontology.org/>

# Conclusions

- Efforts towards frameworks that support semantic harmonization and data linkage increase transparency of science and FAIR compliance
- The NASA life sciences repositories are working with the scientific research communities to develop and use knowledge resources such as
  - Metadata frameworks/models (e.g., ISATab)
  - Standard Vocabularies (like those that are part of OBO Foundry ontologies)
  - Citation and Licensing standards and services
- Future Work: NASA will develop FAIR compliance assessment and monitoring tools for these systems



# Backup



# FAIR Dashboard Development

- Requirements for a FAIR Dashboard are in work
- Dashboard should give broad overview of all data holdings and their range of FAIR Compliance
  - How many objects have DOIs? Of what types? What are the DOI management metrics? What are current DOI mgmt. issues?
  - How many Data objects have DOIs? Of what types? What are the DOI management metrics? What are current DOI mgmt. issues?
  - What % of Experiments have metadata issues wrt FAIR Metrics? What % of public-access Experiments?
  - What % of metadata values are “free text” vs. ontological references?

# FAIR Workbench

Reusable: 64% complete

Passed 37 checks out of 51 (informational checks not included).

Warning for 8 checks. Please review these warnings.

Failed 6 checks. Please correct these issues.

- A resource landing page url was not found. ⓘ Accessible REQUIRED FAILURE
- The entity distribution URL '<https://cn.dataone.org/cn/v2/resolve/urn:uuid:aa1f60c3-aaa1-41d7-939b-2f8236add525>' was found (first of 86 URLs), but is not resolvable. ⓘ Accessible REQUIRED FAILURE
- These 1 proprietary data entity formats (out of 86 total formats) were found: application/vnd.openxmlformats-officedocument.spreadsheetml.sheet ⓘ Reusable REQUIRED FAILURE
- A data quality description was not found. ⓘ Reusable REQUIRED FAILURE
- Provenance process step source code (software) was not found. ⓘ Reusable REQUIRED FAILURE
- A lineage source entity is not present. ⓘ Reusable REQUIRED FAILURE

0 informational checks.

- This dataset failed on 2 Accessibility and 4 Reusability Checks

